

1. A transdermal patch for the treatment of iron deficiency comprising:  
a drug reservoir layer;  
a rate-controlling membrane secured to said reservoir layer; and  
5 a contact adhesive secured to said rate-controlling membrane, wherein said reservoir contains an hematinic substance.
2. The transdermal patch as defined in claim 1, wherein said hematinic substance is selected from the class consisting of ferrous sulfate, ferrous lactate, ferrous iodide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous  
10 fumarate, ferrous citrate, ferrous carbonate saccharated, ferrous carbonate mass, ferronascin, ferroglycine sulfate, and ferrocholate.
3. The transdermal patch as defined in claim 1, further including a protective peel strip on said contact adhesive.
- 15 4. The transdermal patch as defined in claim 1, further including a backing layer upon said drug reservoir layer.
5. The transdermal patch as defined in claim 1, further including a hematinic substance in said  
20 contact adhesive.
6. The transdermal patch as defined in claim 1, wherein said backing layer is aluminized polyester film.
- 25 7. The transdermal patch as defined in claim 1, wherein said drug reservoir includes mineral oil and polyisobutylene.
8. The transdermal patch as defined in claim 1, wherein said contact adhesive includes mineral oil and polyisobutylene.

9. The transdermal patch as defined in claim 1, wherein said protective peel strip is of siliconized polyester.
10. The transdermal patch as defined in claim 1, wherein said patch is a film with a plurality of layers and ranges in thickness from .1 mm to .3 mm.
11. A method of treating an iron deficiency comprising the steps of :
  - (a) providing a drug reservoir layer containing an hematinic substance; and
  - (b) securing said drug reservoir layer to a skin surface.
12. The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of applying a rate-controlling membrane to said reservoir layer.
13. The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of applying a contact adhesive to said rate-controlling membrane.
14. The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of selecting said hematinic substance from the class consisting of ferrous sulfate, ferrous lactate, ferrous iodide, ferrous gluconate, ferrous fumarate, ferrous citrate, ferrous carbonate saccharated, ferrous carbonate mass, ferronascin, ferroglycine sulfate, and ferrocholate.
15. The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of including a protective peel strip on said contact adhesive.
16. The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of including a backing layer upon said drug reservoir layer.
17. The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of including a hematinic substance in said contact adhesive.

18. The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of providing said backing layer as aluminized polyester film.

19. The method as defined in claim 11, further including the step of providing said drug reservoir  
5 with mineral oil and polyisobutylene.

20. The method of manufacturing a transdermal patch comprising the steps of;  
(a) providing a drug reservoir layer containing an hematinic substance; and  
(b) applying said layer to a rate-controlling membrane.